A

DECLARATION

By Direction of the

COMMITTEE

AT

YORKE,

TO

Their deluded and oppressed Countrey-men.

AND

The Letters, with the Propositions and Articles lately sent from Newcastle, upon which he [illegible] Commission and his Answer [illegible]

With Observations [illegible]

Printed at Yorke by [illegible] 1643.

NED BURKE

TO

COUNCILLEE

DECLARATION

A Declaration by the Committee at York, *to their deluded and oppressed Country-men.*

When the Royall presence and the traine of a number of Malignant Nobility was lately among you, when Courtly, curious, and cunningly penned Language was written, and uttered in your hearing, when you saw so many of the Gentry of this County your Neighbours and Land-lords flock to *Yorke*, and adhere to, and assist the conspirators and contrivers of that opposition and force against the Parliament of *England*, which since hath broken forth, and been manifested to all the Kingdome. It is no great wonder though the Common sort were

deceived and came up in such flockes to *Heworth-Moore* to doe service to the golden Idoll. But do but look a few years beyond that, and you may see severall oppressions upon the Subject by all manner of Monopolies and Extortions of money; Lawes trodden under foot, Justice set to sale in every Court, from the highest Bench in *Westminster-hall*, to the Sessions and Commission of Sowers in the Countrey. The purity of the Protestant Religion stained with Popish, Arminian, and other new invented Doctrines, and that by Authority, and out of Pulpits; and the true Worship of God turned into apish and popish inventions of men; Popery grew fast and received favour, and the true Protestant Ministers suppressed and disgraced. And Parliaments (which were the proper and onely remedy to help all this, and the rest of the disease in the politicke body) not onely abandoned, but by Proclamation declared a high crime, for any one to say there should be a Parliament

ment called, and there was none in foure-teene yeares; in which time the distempers of the Kingdom by such misguidance grew so deadly, especially by the Scotish Army raised in defence of that Nation, and brought into this to prevent inroades into their owne, by the forces raised by instigation of the Prelaticall party, that in the end this Soveraigne Parliament was summoned by due course of Law, and so established as never Parliament was before, by the highest confirmation this Kingdome can give, and not to be dissolved against their wills, unlesse by the sword of Traytors. When this Parliament had sitten a while, and had beene courted by granting severall convenient Lawes to sweeten the bitternesse was past. This bridle of Tyranny and soveraigne purge of the Common-wealth, & Churches Maladies, could no longer be indured, by the Prelaticall and Malignant party, and that which no Jesuiticall craft could dissolve, is resolved upon, the Sword must,

and after many bitter reviling words from *York* in Declarations and Answers against the Parliament, (of which the Law saies, *No man ought to thinke dishonourably*) Within this unhappy County, (and by it) which will be an infamy to the Actors for ever, notwithstanding all the applawses for it by the Court, as they had many; the first allowed Arms were taken up, and the Commands of Parliament disobeyed, and their Messengers and Officers with Scorne abused, and the Judgement of that most Honourable Court which is the eye and reason of the Common-wealth in the question of the *Militia* contemned, and the opinions of private men admired and advanced, which the Lawes of this Kingdome never appointed, nor is of any value. When the King by the assistance of the Malignant Gentry of this County whose names are hereafter mentioned, had in order to these opinions of flattering aspiring Lawyers about the Throne, of which it never wanted more (then a good ma-

ny) had ſeiſed upon the *Militia* of this County, the King with ſome of that *Militia* departs into the other neighbour Counties to doe the like, and by the ſame Gentry the firſt Illegall and unjuſt Aſſeſſment of eight thouſand pound is put upon the Countrey to maintaine: ſome part of that *Militia* left behind, to ſuppreſſe the Lawes, and the reſt of the Gentry, who obeyed the Judgement and Direction of the Parliament; but this was oppoſed as a thing againſt Law, ſo much bragged on, ſhould be the ſquare of Government, and an oppreſſion which made but way for a greater, as in ſhort time it proved, riſing from 8000. to 30000 l. by month, and afterwards to 80. thouſand l. *per menſem*. When theſe Gentlemens unlawfull powers aſſembled at *Yorke* could not defend ſuch their unjuſt proceedings, nor their perſons from the Juſtice of the Parliament, nor the forces raiſed to ſuppreſs theſe treſpaſſes and trayterous acts againſt the State and Law, they conſpire to call into the

County

County the Earle of *Newcastle*, then under censure of Parliament for High-treason, and a Semi-papist and an Athisticall person, as was more declared afterward by that horrid crew he brought in with him, and they presse him by arguments of Service to the King and his own Honour to come to their assistance, which was in truth to protect themselves against the Justice of the Parliament. *Newcastle* entertaines the motion, upon termes of horrible oppression to the Countrey, and to serve the Queene. And these oppressours of their Countrey agree to all, and especially to that Proposition about the Queene, and promise any further contribution to that good service. And by a second Letter, magnifie the Earle of *Newcastle* for his entertaining the invitation, and make vows of honour and obedience to his Lordship, and tell of their distresses for Loyalty to the King, when they are about traitorously to destroy both the Law, and the Parliament, the fountain and

bulwarke

bulwarke both of Law and Justice; and consequently the Kingdome, and so to make him a King of bruites and not reasonable men. This Lord thus courted, checks at one Article, omitted, which was the maine one to inrich his Popish Tyrannical Officers and Minions with a full pay; and if that be granted, then his little Lordship is in a huge disposition to be really the faithfull Servant of these complotters and enemies to the State, as he afterwards proved, being the Leader, (*Judas* like) to these betrayers of Christ and his Cause, but are since fallen backward to the ground as that Band of men did. At the Rendition of *Pomfret* Castle there was found the Originall Letters by which this bargaine was made with the Earle of *Newcastle* by the Conspiratours to sell their Country, and all that was of worth in it to that Popish Commander and Army: which Letters being shewed to the Committees for that County attending at *York*, and by them duely considered of, it was

ingrossed, and thought fit that those Letters should be Printed, and a Declaration upon them, that posterity might see who had been the chief destroyers of their Country.

These Letters are these, being examined by some of the Committee appointed for that purpose, and the Originalls remaine in safe hands of the Secretary and may be had if any shall desire it.

My Lord,

IT is the desire of us, and the rest of the Gentry of this County to receive assistances from your Lordship in this time of Mr. Hotham's infesting the Country; which favour we shall always acknowledge from your Lordship, and we are the bolder to this busines, because we know it to be a great Service to his Majesty, by the preservation of this County, and will be much to your Honour, to preserve us peace and safety.

My Lord,

York, Sept. 20. Your Lordships most humble Servants.

George Wentworth.

Servile.

William Smith
Thos. Gower, Vic. Gen.
Henry Slingsby
Peter Middleton
John Key.
John Ramsden
Edmunde Leigh
John Mallory
Francis Nevill
Tho. Ingram
John Goodricke.
Richard Hutton.
William Ingram.
Robert Rockley

Noble Gentlemen,

I Have receaved from you a Letter of inuitation by the hands of Sr. Mar. Langdale, and Mr. Aldburgh, and shall (for the esteeme and affection I beare in generall to this Country bring my native Countrey, and in particular to many of you to whom I have the honour to be known,) be ready to vse all my best aid and assistance in that worke, soe it in like to conduce to his Majesties seruice, and peace and quiet of all his good Subiects, and to conclude this agreement, I have sent you inclosed certaine Propositions, which by way of Articles should be drawne, and signed and sealed by you, and as many more as you shall ingage in

that worke, which I ſhall expect from you before I march. And ſo preſenting my Service to you all, I remaine,

Newcaſtle, Sep. 30. 1642. Your moſt faithfull Servant, *W. N.*

To the Right Honourable, and my Noble friends the Nobilitie and Gentrie now aſſembled at York *for his Majeſties preſent ſervice.*

Propoſitions in anſwer to your Letter of Invitation.

FIrſt, that I have all your conſents and promiſes that the Army be paid whileſt they are in that County.

That an Aſſeſſement be laid upon the Countrey to enable you for that undertaking, and that if money be not gotten in time, that I may have free Billet for the Souldiers, for which Billet you are to ingage your ſelves to the Quarters, and that the Officers be paid according to his Majeſties preſent eſtabliſhment, out of that Aſſeſment.

That

That there be ſome of the Gentry of that Country appointed as a Committee, enabled by the reſt of the Gentry, to agree and conclude of ſuch further Propoſitions as may happen to be neceſſary for this Service, and not here mentioned, and to march along with the Army, whoſe counſell and aſſiſtance from time to time I am reſolved to uſe.

That I have aſſurance that all manner of Proviſions fit for an Army, be prepared and brought to the Army the firſt day it enters.

That ſince this Army was levied, a purpoſe to guard her Majeſties perſon, that it ſhall not be held a breach of any engagement betwixt us, if I retire with ſuch numbers, as I ſhall thinke fit for that ſervice. *W. N.*

My Lord,

WE E have received from your Lordſhip an Anſwer to our Letters of

Invitation, (Noble as your selfe) which shall we hope make you the Master of such a worke of Honour, as besides your great Service it will be to his Majesty, shall both enoble your selfe farther and oblige us. We have signed and sent unto your Lordship, Articles propertionable to your Lordships desire (as we conceive,) besides a particular power to those Gentlemen now with you, more fully to declare our selves. My Lord, beleeve this, That wee suffer here no distresse, but for our Loyalty to the King, and your Lordships favours unto us will equally oblige both; therefore, Good my Lord, make all possible speed to march hither, or to send some force before, lest a little delay make all our endeavours fruitlesse, and in the generall, beleeve that their is nothing in the power of us, or of this County, which shall not faithfully serve you, and more you cannot expect from, My Lord,

Your most faithfull and humble Servants.

Th. Cumberland	George Wentworth
Cecille	Gonzero Darey
Tho. Gower, Vi. co.	Robert Strickland.
William Savile	William Wentworth.
Henry Griffith	Ingram Hopton.
Henry Slingesby	John Goodricke.
Edward Stanhope.	William Wentworth.
John Key	John Barry.
John Mallery	Richard Hutton
Ferdinando Leigh	Francis Monkton
William Lowther	Robert Rockley
John Ramsden	William Thornton

The clause of the Nobility and Gentry of Yorkshire assembled at York this Monday his Majesties Declaration to the Lords and Gentlemen of the North by the Right Honourable the Earle before mentioned, and to morrow your Lordships Army, whole councell and

shall be paid by this County.

2. There is an Assessement of eight thousand pounds already laid upon this County, which shall be levied as soone as by your Lordships assistance we are enabled to doe it, and that till money be gotten in, your Souldiers shall have free billet, for which we will engage our selves to the Quarters; and for the payment of your Officers for the Army, it is referred to the Committee for this County, who have Instructions and power to treat and conclude with your Lordship in that particular.

3. There shall be a Committee of some of the Gentry of the County appointed, and enabled by the rest to agree, and conclude of such further Propositions as may happen to be necessary for this service, not here mentioned, and to march along with your Lordships Army, whose councell and assistance wee desire your Lordship may use; the names of which Committee wee send your Lordship herewithall, who are appointed to attend you at Newcastle, and

to march along with your Army, when you enter into the County.

5. That although we have no doubt of your Lordships wisdom, we will use all possible means to bring to your Army all such provisions, as this Country can afford.

6. We are tender of the safety of his Majesties person, that we shall not only consent to your Lordships performance of this service, but will also contribute our utmost endeavours to assist your Lordship therein.

7. Lastly, we have appointed our Committee to be, Sir *Edward Osborne* Baronet, Sir *Marmaduke Langdale* Knight, *Francis Tindall* and *Richard Thornhill* Esquires, and given them Instructions and power to treat with your Lordship, and to conclude in such particulars, as may further conduce to this Service, or in these propositions admit a doubtfull interpretation.

Mr. Chamberlain *George Marwood*
Sworn *Lambert Boroughs*
Tho. Robinson *Wm.*

My Lords and Gentlemen,

I am to give you many thanks, for your [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[

but money, or hopes of it, and truely yesternight when I was going to bed, there came Colonels and Lieutenant Col. and said, they hardly [illegible] that I left it out, and for their parts, that they must think that if you were so cautious not to grant it in paper, before we drew to the plunder-red very much of it in money, when they were there, and that the worke now was only of fire, and such like discontented words; for the truth is, rather then not come cheerfully to serve you, I will not come at all, for I see before-hand I shall either disband with a little, or fall of plundering without distinction, either of which would be destructive to me: and besides, I hold my self free, since my Articles are not kept for I never understood any of those Articles to referr to the Committee, but such things as I could not remember, and the rest of the passages I left. Could I pay them, or the Maisters you should not have had such an Article, how sure that cannot be, for will put downe the reckoning you how I am capable to serve you, and how not, and so I rest in a huge disposition to be really

Your most faithfull

Newcastle, Oct. 1642. Servant, W. N.

Observation.

IT is plain out of the first Letter that these Gentlemen began with a false Insinuation, to terme themselves the most of the Gentry of *Yorkeshire*, who are not the fourth part of them. In it they call Captaine *Hotham* coming to Doncaster, which was by command of the Parliament of *England* to assist the Lord *Fairfax* to set up the *Militia*, (an infesting the Country) They invite Atheists, Papists, and who ever will to come to joyne with them, the better to enable them to oppose the resolutions of the Parliament, and call it great Service to the King and preservation of the Country, which was the ruine of the Country that bred them, and more service to the Pope then the King. That Lord so invited, yeelds presently to that bait they call Honour, but inthralls them with Articles to oppresse the Country by Assessements which no Law warrants, by Free-quarter which the knowne Lawes forbid to be taken without Authority of Parliament.

mand, and they oppose their Authority
to the County that pay for all, and so
did. They are careful to guard his Ma-
jesties person, who had no care for the
five Members of Parliament. They tell that
Lord he shall be Master (as they hope) of
a world of Honour, &c. which was to burn
Bradford, much of York, and numbers of
other houses, to rob, plunder, and impri-
son the well affected of the County. They
would have him Lord-like submit to them, suf-
fer not disturbed but quiet loyalty to the King,
which was but a pretence for their own pro-
tection from the Justice of Parliament.
In the second Letter, They tell that Lord
his favour to them shall oblige the King,
and promise there is nothing in the Coun-
ty shall not be faithfully serve him, so he will
serve their turns, and in a great part they
performe it; their bodies, their estates,
their wives, their daughters, were his ser-
vants, and his servants servants too: nay,
their consciences, the Gospell, and true
Ministers of it were made to serve that Pa-

pistoleall crew. The pound Knave, because he had all things but one granted him, by their Articles, (which was his Officers pay) that not granted or coldly referred to a Committee, without this also he highly values all the rest, and will not come to their assistance. Poore Countrymen you see how you and all yours, what ever is deare to any of you, hath been bought and sold by those Gentlemen, who in stead of peace and preservation to the Country, have brought in War, Bloudshed and ruine upon it, and in stead of Honour to his Lordship, both he and they like blazing comets are gone out in a stinch, which will last for ever.

It was thought fit to publish in Print the Letter before, sounding the same plain, which is the proper hand writing of Cap. John Pitham, written to the Enemy, when he was the professed servant to the Parliament, [illegible] my lord of Newcastle

[illegible] kindly. Noble Lord, I have found out a way to doe his Majesty reall Service, and

to be your Servant without ſcandall; for I confeſſe nothing went hard, but that I could not come in to your Lordſhip in ſuch a condition as befitted him that you eſteem worthy your friendſhip. I ſhall deſire you would by this Bearer ſend me a ſafe conduct for forme ſake, not that I deſire or care for it: if you could write me but a word what my L. *Fairfax* hath done, I could make great advantage of it in this buſineſſe, for I thinke you will ſee ſuch a conſiderable party brought to the King, as hath not beene yet; all which he is to thank you for. I ſhall add no more becauſe I ſhall wait on you ſo ſoon, but to deſire the countenance of your good opinion, to

Lincolne, April 15. 1643. *Your moſt affectionate ſervant,* John Hotham.

By this his ſecret contrived treaſon of his againſt the Common-wealth, and for which he ſuffered death is more diſcovered, and that righteous ſentence cleared and ratified.

FINIS.